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July 2, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Mail Stop Amendment

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application No. 10/050,907
Filed: January 18, 2002 Confirmation No.: 5808
For: **Apparatus and Methods for Separating Liquids
From Solids**
Inventors: STROUP, et al.
Attorney Docket No.: 02514.0007.NPUS01

Sir:

The following documents are forwarded for appropriate action by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office:

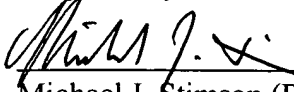
- 1) *Petition for Extension of Time*
- 2) *Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111*
- 3) *Return postcard*

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge fee payment in the amount of \$950.00 for a three-month extension under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 to Deposit Account No. 08-3038, referencing docket No. 02514.0007.NPUS00.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 08-3038. If extensions of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 other than those otherwise provided for herewith are required to prevent abandonment of the present patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned, and any fees therefor are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 08-3038. *A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.*

Respectfully submitted,


Michael J. Stimson (Reg. No. 45,429)

Enclosures